



612.37981CX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: BOILLEY EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Serial No.: 09/471,501 BOX AF
Filed: December 23, 1999
For: Hybrid Riser Or Pipe For Fluid Transfer
Art Unit: 3671
Examiner: A. Pechhold

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop: Box AF
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 27, 2004

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed February 6, 2004, in connection with the above-identified application.

Claims 7, 9, 11, 12, 17, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 4,279,543 to Remery in view of United States Patent No. 5,505,560 to Brown et al. Applicant traverses this rejection and requests reconsideration thereof.

The present invention relates to a pipe for great water depths allowing transfer of a fluid between a floating support and a point located below and at a distance from the water surface, and to a system for producing petroleum effluents in great water depths allowing fluid transfer between a floating support and a source of effluents, the system including a pipe for great water depths allowing transfer of a fluid between the floating support and a point located below and at a distance from the water surface. The pipe comprises a flexible riser part connected, at one end, to the